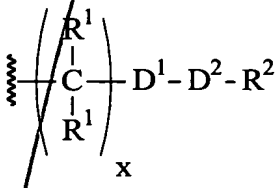
(a) A^1 and A^2 are each, independently, selected from the group consisting of a hydrogen atom and a group having the structure:

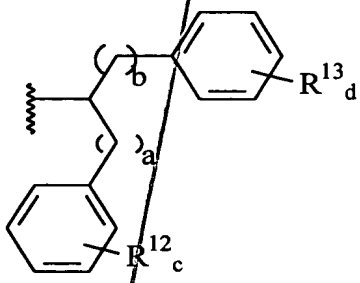


with the proviso that at A^1 and A^2 are not both hydrogen atoms, and wherein:

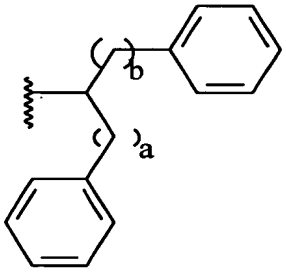
(i) each R^1 is independently selected from the group consisting of a hydrogen atom, a hydroxyl group, a hydrocarbon group, a substituted hydrocarbon group, a heterogeneous group, a substituted heterogeneous group, a carbocyclic group, a substituted carbocyclic group, a heterocyclic group, a substituted heterocyclic group, an aromatic group, a substituted aromatic group, a heteroaromatic group, and a substituted heteroaromatic group;

(ii) x is 0 or 1;

(iii) each R^2 is independently selected from the group consisting of:



and



wherein:

(a) a is at least about 2;

(b) b is at least about 2;

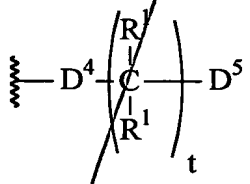
(c) c is 1 to about 3;

(d) d is 1 to about 3; and

(e) R^{12} and R^{13} are each independently selected from the group consisting of hydrocarbon groups and substituted hydrocarbon groups; and

(iv) D^1 and D^2 are each independently selected from the group consisting of -C(O)- and -NH- ; with the proviso that wherein when D^1 is -NH- then D^2 is -C(O)-, and wherein when D^2 is -NH- then D^1 is -C(O)-;

(b) A^3 has the structure:



wherein:

(i) each R^1 is independently selected from the group consisting of a hydrogen atom and a hydroxyl group;

(ii) t is from 0 to about 6;

(iii) D^4 is $-CH(R^1)-$;

(iv) D^5 is $-OR^6$; and

(v) R^6 is selected from the group consisting of a carbocyclic group, a substituted carbocyclic group, an aromatic group, and a substituted aromatic group.

(Please add new Claim 18 as follows:)

18. The compound according to Claim 17 wherein x is 1.

(Please add new Claim 19 as follows:)

19. The compound according to Claim 17 wherein x is 0.

(Please add new Claim 20 as follows:)

20. The compound according to Claim 19 wherein D^1 is -C(O)- and D^2 is -NH-.

(Please add new Claim 21 as follows:)

21. The compound according to Claim 17 wherein D^1 is -C(O)- and D^2 is -NH-.

(Please add new Claim 22 as follows:)

22. The compound according to Claim 17 wherein D^1 is -NH- and D^2 is -C(O)-.